

Equal Rights

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FIVE CENTS

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OCTOBER 26, 1929



Photo by Bachrach.

Annie Goodrich

Dean of Yale University Nursing School, co-chairman with Lavinia Dock of the Nurses' Council of the National Woman's Party. Miss Goodrich is to speak on the Woman's Party radio program on the subject of "Women in the Nursing Profession."

Equal Rights



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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."
[Senate Joint Resolution Number 64.]

Introduced in the Senate June 4, 1929,
by SENATOR GERALD P. NYE, North Dakota.
Introduced in the House May 18, 1928,
by REPRESENTATIVE FREDERICK W. MAGRADY
Pennsylvania.

The Open Sesame

THE election of Susan Lawrence, M. P., as chairman of the Executive Committee of the Labor Party of Great Britain, sets a new precedent for the achievements of women in the political life of mankind. Although the months just ahead are bound to be critical ones for the British Labor Government, the leaders of the Labor Party had the courage to overstep tradition and for the first time to choose a woman for this all-important post. As a pledge of sincerity on the part of the Labor Party to place people in positions of great responsibility because of merit and irrespective of sex, this recent action is thoroughly convincing.

As a token, also, of the high esteem in which Miss Lawrence's abilities as a statesman are held, her election is significant, for the Executive Committee of the Party in power is a sort of super Cabinet wherein problems that are too complex and difficult to be considered elsewhere are thrashed out and action recommended. The chairman of this committee must, in the nature of the case, in the opinion of her fellows, be a person of exceptional ability.

It is no wonder therefore that upon Miss Lawrence's election a prominent member of the Labor Party made the prognostication publicly that a woman was sure to be made Premier of Great Britain a few years hence. This prophecy has been received by the public and the press with a considerable degree of enthusiasm and with a noticeable lack of the erstwhile jocosity with which the advancement of women in public life was formerly heralded.

This shift in public opinion is doubtless to be accredited to the fact that women now, through their votes, hold the balance of power in Great Britain. Ten years ago it would have been inconceivable in England, or anywhere else, that a woman should be elected to a post of such overwhelming importance.

As tangible evidence of the value of direct Feminist work this episode is conclusive. If it had not been for the woman suffrage campaign and its successful issue Miss Lawrence would not now be chairman of the Executive Committee of the Labor Party of Great Britain. Yet in the opinion of members qualified to judge she is the best person, man or woman, for the post. Being the best person it is to the benefit of her country that she should be chosen, and this fact takes us back to the fundamental purpose of the Feminist movement; namely, that ability and not sex shall be the open sesame to opportunity.

Well Said

ON ANOTHER page of this issue of EQUAL RIGHTS we reprint in full an editorial which appeared recently in the *Washington Post* entitled, "The Rights of Women."

One phrase in this editorial sums up so perfectly the implications involved in protective legislation for women only, that we stress it again here, lest any of our readers should overlook it. Speaking of the legislators who are anxious to "protect" women through welfare legislation, the *Post* says:

"They weave into the legal structure of their State a glorified version of the theory that women are helpless creatures in need of protection by the 'stronger sex.'"

A more concise and more exact statement of the case anent protective legislation for women only cannot be imagined.

If women were not helpless creatures in comparison with men, obviously they would not need additional protection. Hence the theory of the "stronger sex" and hence also the theory of the "woman's wage."

In this nice juxtaposition of words accomplished by the *Post* the tragedy of womanhood is revealed. Woman has always been regarded by her "protectors" as a helpless creature, the bearer of burdens, the hewer of wood and drawer of water, weak, and so to be victimized.

And the "glorified version" of this unutterable philosophy is still more or less weaving itself into the law of the land.

The *Post* holds out hope that at least momentarily the process has been checked by those who believe in Equal Rights.

So far, so good; but a lot of unraveling will have to be done before the idea that women are weak, helpless, and comparatively worthless creatures will be discarded by the average mentality.

Meanwhile we thank the *Post* for a *bon mot* that is without parallel.

Pankhurst Ceremony To Be in Capitol

THE memorial services to be held by the National Woman's Party in honor of Emmeline Pankhurst, militant Feminist, will take place in the Crypt of the United States Capitol.

There beside the statues of America's outstanding Feminist pioneers, Susan B. Anthony, Lucretia Mott, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Great Britain's courageous suffrage leader, who inspired Feminists the world over, will be honored by American Feminists of today who owe much to her example.

Marie Moore Forrest, eminent director of pageants, will be in charge of the ceremonies, with Mabel Van Dyke, chairman of the Young Women's Council of the Woman's Party, as vice-chairman of the committee in charge of the memorial services.

The memorial tributes will begin at 3 P. M., December 8.

Plans for the national convention, to be held December 6, 7, and 8 in Alva Belmont House, the Woman's Party's new headquarters, are progressing rapidly. Several States are making every effort

to have their full quota of delegates, all their State officers, and every life member, founder, and sustainer present at the convention. The national head-

WHO CAN VOTE?

THE following excerpt of the National Constitution of the National Woman's Party is published to inform members and State branches as to those entitled to a vote in the convention to be held December 6-8:

"The voting body of the National Convention shall consist of the members of the National Council, chairmen of State organizations belonging to this organization, chairmen of Standing Committees, chairmen of Occupational Councils, Endowers, and delegates from State Endowers, and delegates from State organizations, each State organization to be entitled to one delegate for every twenty-five members."

quarters has furnished the Maryland State Branch a list of every life member, sustainer, and founder to aid the branch bringing all of them to the convention.

Mabel Vernon, national executive secretary, went to New York on October 19 to confer with Jane Norman Smith, chair-

man of the National Council, on convention plans.

Pilar Houston, a Cuban member of the International Advisory Council of the National Woman's Party, writes that she hopes to be able to attend the convention. Every member of the International Advisory Council has been invited to attend, but word has not been received from many yet, on account of the distances. Other Cuban members of the Council may also attend, Mrs. Houston writes.

Gail Laughlin, member of the National Council and member of the Maine Legislature, has wired that she can probably attend, and will do so if possible. Elizabeth Kent, California State chairman and member of the National Council, has wired that she will attend the convention.

Helen A. Archdale, an English member of the International Advisory Council, writes that she wishes she could be present, but is too busy with her work as international secretary of the Six Point Group, which is concentrating upon the Equal Rights Treaty and the establishment of equality in nationality laws.

Senator Capper Next Speaker

SENATOR ARTHUR CAPPER of Kansas will be the speaker on the National Woman's Party radio program on Wednesday, October 30, at 5 to 5.15 P. M. He will speak on "Women's Part In Rural Life," a subject with which he is extremely familiar, as Senator from an agricultural State, as publisher of several farm magazines, and as Feminist.

The speech of Frances G. Roberts, treasurer of the Industrial Council, made over the radio hook-up on October 23, follows:

"The National Woman's Party is organized throughout the United States to secure for women equality with men. It is asking for an amendment to the constitution reading 'Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction.' This amendment would undoubtedly have been passed long since *except* for the belief that if passed it would do away with restrictive laws, as applied to women only, in industry—wage-earning women.

"In the more highly industrialized States there is an increasing tendency to make special laws for groups of women in certain occupations. Now, equality for the wage-earning woman means just one thing—the chance to earn her living, sell her labor on equal terms with men. Her need is a job that will pay enough for her to live on. She is just as likely to be supporting dependents as the man worker. She pays just as much for the

comforts and necessities of life as he does and she claims, therefore, the same right of choice in regard to an occupation, the same right to bargain with regard to her working conditions, whether individually or collectively, that the man enjoys. She finds that special laws, whatever their intention, do in their working out, make it harder for her to get work, tend to reduce her wages, and in some instances they protect her right out of a job.

"I am not theorizing in what I am saying to you today. I have been a wage earner since I was sixteen and I know intimately many women who are dependent on their weekly envelope for the roof over their heads, the food they eat and the clothes they wear. It is their problem that I want to present to you.

"Special laws for women are passed on three pretexts: First, that those affected wanted such laws; second, that even though the workers might not want them, the laws were good for them; and third, that it was the duty of the State by such laws to safeguard the health of the coming generation.

"Let me speak briefly on this third pretext for so-called 'protective' laws for women workers—the future generation. It has never been proved that hard work, long hours of work make the bearing of children impossible. To the contrary, it would seem that the largest families are found among the laboring classes. If the life of the potential mother who works

for a living is to be carefully supervised by a patriarchal State, why not the lives of all potential mothers? And how about the fathers of the race? Children inherit from both parents. I believe that under our present system of government this should still be a woman's private and personal responsibility—the keeping of her body as fine and fit as possible for the bearing of her children. And I believe this should be her privilege also, regardless of whether she earns her living or belongs to the leisure class.

"As to the pretext that those affected want such laws, let me ask you if women wanted the protection of the 48-hour law recently passed here in New York State, why didn't they come before the State Industrial Survey Commission and ask for such protection? I heard women workers under oath say they did not want a law passed forbidding them the right to make extra money by occasional overtime. I did not hear at the sessions of the Industrial Survey Commission any woman who testified under oath that she was a wage-earner and needed or wanted the protection of such a law. But I do know that since the law passed there are many girls earning less money. I heard women factory workers from up-State tell the members of the Commission at their final session after the law was passed how irksome and restricting they found the law to be.

"If women workers had found comfort

and security as a result of the law that forbids them to work after ten o'clock at night, do you think that women printers would have fought for exemption from it? They did fight for and win this exemption, and incidentally, they won the right to choose the hours that paid the higher rate. Women pharmacists are another group who have recently won the right to choose their own hours of work. Women railroad workers have had the law amended to cancel hour limitations for them. Women newspaper writers and reporters are no longer under the six-day week or the night work law. I think you will agree with me that women in New York do not want special labor laws made for them.

"Now, as to what is good for us—our health and morals—the people who have pressed for the passage of these laws are of two groups, representatives of organized labor, either men or women not affected by the law, and social workers, women who with kindly intentions try to do something for a class of women whose needs they do not understand.

"It is noticeable that the greatest concern is felt for workers where there is the keenest competition between men and women. As long ago as 1834 in Massachusetts, the president of the New England Association of Farmers, Mechanics and Other Workingmen, declared that 'Women were dragging out a life of slavery and wretchedness' in industry, and that 'the farmers' daughters earned money, to be sure, but lost health, happiness and character.'

The following year this association condemned 'female labor' as debasing to women and added that it was 'a destructive competition to the male laborer.' The year after that they recommended legislation to restrict women in industry.

"There you have it. The secret of the intense concern men's labor unions feel for the health and morals of the woman worker! To this day there is no protest on the part of organized labor against a twelve or twenty-four-hour day for the woman nurse, the housewife, or the woman domestic. There is no rush for a law to forbid a woman scrubbing offices between the hours of 10 P. M. and 6 A. M.

There is no demand that the woman attendant in a coat-room be sent off duty in the early evening.

"But when the women restaurant workers went to Albany last winter to ask for themselves the same privilege of choosing their hours that has been granted to so many other working women, I heard the American Federation of Labor representative, say that he was opposed to amending the law to give the women this right because it would undoubtedly result in throwing some thousands of waiters out of work. Who is being 'protected' do you think? And is it our health and morals or the fight for a job that is the real consideration?

"Women are not allowed to work in restaurants or bakeries before 6 A. M. in New York. Where I am employed we have had to teach men our work and see them take over our jobs, because it was necessary to start the baking before six in order that the early customers might have his fresh-baked coffee cake or bun or roll for breakfast. When I was talking of this to a man the other day, a Federal employee, he said: 'I don't think a woman should have to get up and get out so early in the morning. I do it myself and I tell you sometimes it's tough.' There you have a sample of the soft-hearted chivalry that doesn't realize how much tougher it is not to have a job.

"You find there something of the same sentimentality that resulted in a law carefully framed to remove women conductors from the street cars of New York City back in 1917. I count many of those women among my friends. Not one of these women I know has since been able to connect with a job that paid her as good a salary as the conductor's job. You may not want to work on the street cars. Some women did. You may not want to be a woman blacksmith, riveter, or a woman printer. Neither do I. I prefer my own job working in a restaurant kitchen. But don't you agree with me that if a woman does want to follow one of these other occupations, she should have the right to do so? I have been almost ashamed sometimes to hear groups of women begging legislative bodies for the chance to earn their living in their

own way. It seems, somehow, un-American.

"You may think, because I tell you of the exemption that certain groups of women have won that we are getting on pretty well with our fight. I want you to think what it means to women who have no resources to find time, strength, energy and money to carry through such a fight. Then remember, too, that we have at present no assurance that some legislature in the near future may not take away from us what we have gained. Only by having that principle of equality written into our Constitution can we be sure of where we stand.

"Do not think that only the lower class women need this safeguard. Recently, the business and professional women in California came very near being included under the eight-hour law. Most embarrassing for a woman lawyer or doctor, as well as for her client, if the whistle for the end of the day came at a critical moment.

Wage-earning members of the National Woman's Party are organized as the Industrial Council, and while we heartily endorse the fight for equality in all other respects, we are most acutely concerned with getting industrial equality. We regard that as the basic equality. Women are coming into the labor market in larger numbers. We are more and more a factor to be reckoned with. Organized labor must deal fairly with us. Our votes are just as potent as those of the men workers, let the politicians remember.

"We are not opposed in any way to protective legislation, if it be enacted for *persons*, meaning men and women workers equally. We are not opposed to organized labor, but we remember hearing the representative of the American Federation of Labor say: 'Oh! we don't want to organize women: we don't want them to go through what we did.' Women workers think that statement does not ring true.

"We ask you to lay aside sentiment, consider us and our problems searchingly and honestly. Then when we ask for your help and the backing of your organizations, come across with it. We need it in our fight for a fifty-fifty break."

Jurists for Equal Rights

OCTOBER 12 was Feminist day at the meeting of the Institute of International law in Briarcliff, New York. The Institute adopted three declarations of international law in two of which primary emphasis was put on the doctrine that States should make no sex or race discriminations, and Doris Stevens addressed the sessions, the first woman ever to speak before this body of internationally famous jurists.

The declarations adopted were:

"No motive whatsoever based directly or indirectly on differences of sex, race, language, or religion can authorize a State to refuse to any of its nationals private and public rights and especially the admission to institutions of public instruction and the exercise of different economic activities, professions and industries.

"The equality already provided is not to be nominal but really effective

and excludes all discrimination, direct or indirect.

"No State has the right to withdraw, except for reasons taken from its general legislation, its nationality from those who for reasons of sex, race, language or religion it might wish to deprive of the rights guaranteed by the preceding articles."

An official comment of the institute said:

"It is notable that the institute stresses

the fact previously not covered even in individual State constitutions that these fundamental rights are guaranteed without distinction of sex, which is a great triumph for the cause of the Equal Rights of Women."

Miss Stevens, who was secretary of sessions at the meeting, and is chairman of

the Inter American Commission of Women and the Committee on International Action of the National Woman's Party, addressed the meeting as follows at the dinner on the evening of October 12:

"After all, what is the world community? Nothing more than mankind and womankind. We men and women

were born together. We must die together. How much more beautiful life will be when we learn to live together and to work together in kindness, sharing positions of authority and triumphs as well as the disappointments and discouragements. Let us embark together on a great expedition of discovery."

Summer Work of Commission

DURING the past three months the Inter American Commission of Women has had abundant opportunity to see how fruitful has been the service of information to the press carried on ever since its inauguration. There has been a real response, not a mechanical reprinting of publicity in order to fill up space. The articles sent out by the commission are not merely printed but are read with scrupulous interest, discussed, and commented upon.

We might instance, for example, a recent translation, mailed to the Commission's Spanish exchanges, of a critical-biographical article on Doris Stevens which first appeared in *Time and Tide* of London. In the article, casual reference was made to Miss Stevens's recommendation, during her early twenties, to the city of Cleveland that there be appointed municipal inspectors of tenements. This, while an interesting and relevant detail, was obviously not of primary importance—nor would it have been particularly noted by a cursory reader. Readers of Inter American Commission bulletins, however, are not cursory, but eager and enthusiastic; so that a few weeks after the article was distributed, when, as it happened, a great conference on social welfare was held by a number of men's and women's associations in Havana, there was nothing surprising in the fact that one of the speakers, as quoted in Havana's leading daily, *El Diario de la Marina*, said:

"We recommend the creation of a Bureau of Inspection of Labor, which in reality should adopt the form foreseen by Doris Stevens of the Inter American Commission of Women; namely, inspection of tenements. . . ."

That spontaneous and natural reference to information sent out by the Commission, that evident assurance of having the reference understood, is a telling bit of evidence as to Latin America's intense interest in all Feminist news.

Again, a woman in Banfield, a little town of Argentina, Angela Carvajal de Márquez y Bolívar, editor of a tiny four-page Feminist paper, has evidently found in the reports of the work of the Inter American Commission of Women an incentive and a realization. Not only has she reprinted the articles sent her, but she has commented upon them editorially, and written and published a running his-

tory of women at the Sixth Pan American Conference; and furthermore, she regularly clips from the provincial Argentine press of her part of the Republic—small local papers, most of them, which would never in any other manner find their way beyond the borders of the country—all articles and comments referring to the work of the Commission. The number of these is surprising, and their value in proving the extent of the interest in the Commission's work is inestimable.

The *Diario de Centro América*, of Guatemala, the largest daily newspaper in Central America, has devoted columns to reprinting pictures and bulletins sent out by the Commission, and has published even more valuable columns of articles suggested by or commenting upon material contained in these bulletins.

From Santo Domingo comes the first number of a beautiful and progressive magazine, *Femina* which is almost wholly devoted to the Commission. "We are glad to present the Inter American Commission of Women to our readers in token of cordiality and friendship," says the editor, Pépronila Angélica Gómez, distinguished Dominican Feminist, "and to desire them, from the heroic Dominican fatherland, all possible success in their noble labor on behalf of women." Such examples might be indefinitely continued: they are daily more frequent. . . .

In addition to the general bulletins, Muna Lee has written two articles of 3,000 words each for the *Pan American Magazine* and for the *Bulletin of the Pan American Union*, at the request of the respective editors, and two of about 4,000 words each, in Spanish, for *Iris*, of Caracas, Venezuela, a magazine edited by the brilliant Commissioner from that country, Lucila Luciani de Pérez Díaz. . . .

WE have during the summer carried on a continuous service of information about our work. Sample question? A French journalist writes to ask whether a Danish woman married to a Brazilian is a Dane or a Brazilian. The Woman's Missionary Council of the Methodist Church South, sends in a query as to the political status of the Cuban woman. The Federation of Woman's Clubs in the State of Washington asks for information about the South American women and the work of the Commission. A New Hampshire student working on her doctorate asks

about the Commission's program, the scope of its work, and the groups reached. And so on indefinitely. . . .

An interesting feature of the correspondence has been with consuls-American, British, and French from such remote places as Ethiopia, Kabylia, Luang-Prabang, and Aden, regarding the questionnaires sent out in the early spring regarding nationality. These consuls in almost every case showed the greatest desire to be of assistance and sent in detailed answers, frequently accompanied by the native laws in original text and translation. One leading jurist in each Latin American country, the recognized authority for his country on nationality legislation, has been sent Miss Paul's synopsis of his country's laws with a request for criticism. Some of these have already been returned and in every case the synopsis has been found correct.

It was interesting also to gather, for the pamphlet to be issued by the American Institute of International Law, the photographs of all speakers at the famous plenary session of February 7, 1928, of the Sixth Pan American Conference; the occasion of the women's speeches on behalf of Equal Rights. . . .

Throughout the summer the work on Nationality, begun last year and steadily carried forward since, has been going on night and day in Washington. An account of Doris Stevens's work on behalf of Nationality here and abroad—in London, Paris, Geneva, and Berlin—is out of place in this report of the summer's work in and about the Washington office; and has, in any case, been long since given to the public by the *Associated Press*, the *United Press*, and special correspondents.

In addition to the usual work during the period mentioned, the monumental Nationality Report prepared by Alice Paul, chairman of the Commission's Committee on Nationality, has been completed for publication. Miss Paul has assembled and commented upon the nationality laws of the world—some ninety-odd countries. Her committee, consisting of Laura Berrien, Elizabeth Selden Rogers, Emma Wold, and Muna Lee, have been busy with the preparation of the manuscript, checking up of originals and translations, and verification of synopses of laws through the different governments or

their official representatives. In the quarters generously assigned for night and holiday work in the library of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace through the good offices of Dr. James Brown Scott, the constant and ever active friend of Feminism, Miss Berrien has worked week after week until midnight, supervising a corps of typists, proof-reading, and preparing manuscript.

Mrs. Rogers came to Washington and assisted in research, besides verifying the laws in the State Department, where a room was most generously placed at the committee's disposal, and in checking up the manuscript. During her stay in Washington, she visited the papal legate and showed him the section dealing with the Vatican. His Excellency was obviously both surprised and delighted to find that the Inter American Commission of Women had already assembled and translated the Nationality regulation of the State of the City of the Vatican, so soon after its establishment by treaty.

Miss Wold has given invaluable assistance in research, and in a critical reading of the report. Burnita Shelton Matthews has also been of great help in the preparing of an exhaustive cross-index.

Elsie Ross Shields, executive secretary of the Commission, has been of great service in many ways, and has been particularly successful in her dealings with embassies and legations regarding the work. Through her good offices, long sections were generously typed in the original languages by the Greek, Italian, Japanese, Finnish, Turkish, Roumanian, and other legations.

On the scholarly and brilliant report itself, another great contribution by Alice Paul to the cause of international Feminism, there is no need to dwell here. It will soon be issued from the press and speak for itself — with the tongues of men, not angels, for the most part, the laws at present being what they are!

THERE has been the usual stream of visitors, of course. One recalls, casting a hasty backward glance, an editor from Panama (who promptly asked for an article about the work of the Inter American Commission and was given it); a group of Cuban educators, and later, a charming, alert Cuban Feminist; a Dutch journalist; a Brazilian correspondent; and hordes of people who came in because they had heard that a new inter-

national project was being carried through by women and wanted to find out about it.

One could tell so many stories relative to the Nationality work; stories showing for example, to what a remarkable degree diplomats became keenly interested in the report as it progressed. There was the Czechoslovakian who dashed in from the legation one morning to request a pre-publication copy of the Czechoslovakian synopsis for official use, "because it is the only complete and accurate statement of our Nationality legislation in any language." And the Latvian consul in New York who had all Latvian nationality laws photostatted and sent down—so that in the end we were enabled definitely to place two tiny but important paragraphs, attributed by the British Foreign Papers to a law in which they did not appear, and long eluding us. . . .

In short, it has been a crowded, busy, all-demanding, and glorious summer. Let Laura Berrien speak for us all. "Tired!" she exclaimed indignantly, when asked if it were not a little wearing to work half the night nightly through a Washington July and August. "Why, I was never so happy in my life!"

Press Comment

The Rights of Women

Washington Post, Washington, D. C., October 13, 1929.

THE rise of woman to affluence in business, professional and political circles has been sudden and phenomenal, according to spokesmen for the National Woman's Party. They do not claim that women dominate the country as yet, but they subtly hint that it is the popular thing to say they do. To the average mind, they say, women have attained equality with men in America, and there seems to be a hint in the statement, or an inflection in the voice, implying that they intend to follow up their present gains—and who knows? Only one obstacle lies in their path—obsolete, antiquated, unfair, discriminatory, useless and ridiculous laws. These the Party intends to wipe out with an "Equal Rights" Amendment to the Constitution.

It would betray gross misunderstanding of the nature of woman to suppose that it was done intentionally, but on the same day that the National Woman's Party launched its drive for "Equal Rights" the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor issued a long statement deploring the lack of constructive legislation for the special protection of women. Hardships resulting from lack of restrictive legislation for women workers are widespread, it was stated. Only ten States and the District of Columbia

have an eight-hour law for feminine employees, and in many cases this law applies to only a comparatively few industries. It might be added that in no case are restrictions imposed on the hardest working group of all—the housekeepers for large families.

Such States as Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Utah and Washington, which "have blazed the trail of progress" by limiting labor of women to eight hours, are placed on the honor roll. States like Alabama, Florida, Iowa and West Virginia stand at the foot of the scale, on the black list of Commonwealths that have taken no legal steps to regulate the hours of working women. First honors go to Kansas, Michigan and Washington, all of which have decreed that their womanhood shall be protected from all industries and occupations where conditions of labor are detrimental to their health, morals or welfare.

It is all very discouraging to conscientious legislators who are anxious to protect the rights of women. They weave into the legal structure of their State a glorified version of the theory that women are helpless creatures in need of protection by the "stronger sex" and they are lauded by one feminine group as champions of a most worthy cause. By another group they are attacked as reactionaries, harking back to the Middle Ages. Whatever they do, or even if they

do nothing, they are certain to be accused of obstructing the progress of women. With the Legislatures made up preponderantly of men, who instinctively hesitate to act against womankind either one way or the other, it is not surprising that the question is tacitly ignored.

Back to the Home:
From the Christian Science Monitor, October 9, 1929.

HENRY FORD wants women to study to be better wives and mothers in payment for the release from household drudgery which modern labor-saving devices are bringing about. In a recent magazine article the famous manufacturer whose automobiles have provided so many women with a ready means of escape from household duties repeats the old, old argument that woman's place is in the home and adds that she might as well stay there anyway since she is no great success in industry.

In fact, Mr. Ford sees women as a diminishing rather than as an increasing factor among the employees in manufacturing plants, because, he says, "They are not of an inventive turn of mind," nor "precise and mechanically minded," nor have they "the interest to develop in mechanical work."

It is natural to think of Mr. Ford as being in a position to speak with authority about shop work. And yet can it be that his personal experience with women in industry leads him to these con-

clusions in spite of the long list of inventions credited to women? Women, long ago, found employers unwilling to give them the training and experience they needed, and yet they invented, developed, and in some cases manufactured articles far outside the ordinary feminine domain. How about the invention of silk weaving by a Chinese woman? Or the part which an American woman played in the early days of sewing machine manufacture? How about the hundreds of patents taken out by women during the World War, many of which actually were used on the battlefields?

Back to the home, says Mr. Ford, and yet one wonders how women succeed even at the business of home making if he is right in his contentions that "women don't want to think much even in their home life," are disinclined to make decisions and "show no initiative."

Fortunately there is plenty of evidence before the eyes of the average person to enable him to draw his own conclusions as to the correctness of this estimate. Even many of those women who flock into the factories at the call of the 7 o'clock whistle have first done their daily stint of dish washing, dusting, dressing of children. And millions of others remain in their homes every day, making decisions and showing initiative in making \$1 do the work of \$2, coaxing an unwilling coal fire up to the duty of baking the morning muffins, and determining those questions of discipline which mean so much in the development of character for thousands of children.

Girl's Genius Wins Her High Industrial Job

Los Angeles Examiner,
Los Angeles, Calif.,
October 7, 1929.

mathematical genius of the Southern California Edison Company.

In the October issue of *Pictorial Review* Ford says:

"Women are a diminishing rather than an oncoming force in industry. Women are not precise and mechanically minded.

"Girls are not of an inventive turn of mind. Women don't want to think on mechanical and industrial matters."

There's something in the classics about it being unsafe to generalize. Probably there are many reasons why the Sage of Dearborn should revise. And Miss MacFerran is one of the most conclusive.

This young woman is a full-fledged electrical engineer, with degrees from three universities, and upon her calculations depend an important margin of profits for the \$250,000,000 Edison Company.

She settles problems of tremendous operating significance by the discovery of formulae that are a bit too deep and tough for the male minds that mass themselves on the high-voltage stuff. When it comes to higher calculus she holds the altitude record.

The Edison Company, ever on the alert for bright minds, discovered Miss MacFerran after she had taken her third de-

MAYBE Henry Ford would be willing to compromise on his statement that women have no place in industry if he only knew Miss Mabel MacFerran,

gree from the department of Dr. Harris B. Ryan, famous electrical scientist of Stanford University. Before that she had been graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, specializing in physics, mathematics and electricity. Then she took a post-graduate course in high voltage research at Stanford and won the Elwell fellowship that gave her the course with Doctor Ryan.

At first, it is said, some of the engineers in the Edison operating department, to which she was assigned, couldn't adjust their minds to the idea of having a woman around taking a highly intellectualized "masculine" role. "It wasn't woman's work—too technical."

But gradually, by dint of a thorough knowledge of the fundamentals of electrical engineering and her marvelous grasp of its mathematics, this girl steadily advanced.

From specializing in transformer testing and calculations she took up a work connected with the development of protective equipment and electrical appliances. Then there were new problems which involved costs running into hundreds of thousands a year.

At this juncture the operating engineer looked around for a technical assistant; and his eye just naturally lit on Miss MacFerran.

It is Miss MacFerran who operates the "system calculating board," a device which performs much as a slide rule, but with additional features relating to electrical problems.

Feminist Notes

President Pro-Tem of Senate

MARGIE E. NEAL, first and only woman member of the Texas Senate, was recently elected president pro-tem of the Texas Senate. If Governor Dan Moody and Lieutenant Governor Barry Miller should both leave the State at the same time, Senator Neal would be acting Governor. She was formerly a school teacher and a newspaper publisher.

Woman Delegate Opposes I. L. O. Head

MISS HESSELGEN, government delegate to the International Labor Conference held in Geneva May 30 to June 21, protested against the "one-sided way of looking at these things" displayed by the director, Albert Thomas, in his report. M. Thomas had violently discussed "extreme Feminists" who demand industrial equality between men and women. The Latvian Government delegate, Mr. Duzmans, explained that women of his country oppose night work laws because they fear it will throw them out of employment.

Jury Service for Island Women

EQUALITY between men and women of the Hawaiian Islands as to jury service is provided in a bill introduced in the House of Representatives October 10 by Delegate Victor S. K. Houston of Hawaii. His bill, which goes farther than the law of the District of Columbia, would amend the Organic Act of Hawaii by adding the following:

"Hereafter no person shall be disqualified for service as a juror or grand juror by reason of sex, but provisions of law relating to qualifications of jurors and grand jurors, and exemptions from jury duty, shall in all cases apply to women as well as to men."

Theatre Manager

ZARA M. ISAACS is the first woman to be appointed business manager of a theatre in Yorkshire, England. Miss Isaacs, a graduate of Sheffield University, was formerly publicity manager of the Sheffield Repertory Theatre, and has been promoted to business manager.

Women M. P.'s in Finland

SIXTEEN women were among the two hundred members of the Finnish Parliament recently elected. Hedvig Gebhard was not re-elected. The Finnish National Coalition Party has three women members (formerly two); Finnish Progressive Party, two (previously one); Agrarians, two (formerly one); Swedish People's Party, none (formerly one); Socialist Party, eight (previously nine); Communist Party, one (formerly none).

Woman Directs Cancer Clinic

DR. E. P. HURDON, cancer specialist, has been appointed director of the Marie Curie Hospital, Hampstead, England, the first radium clinic for women in England. Consultations, diagnosis, and treatment for women who fear that they are suffering from cancer or some allied complaint are given at the hospital. Twenty-five can now be accommodated in the hospital, and funds are now sought to build a ward for fifteen patients.

Mme. Curie to Officiate

MARIE CURIE, discoverer of radium, will dedicate the new Hepburn Hall of Chemistry at Saint Lawrence University in Canton, New York, in October. During her visit to the United States Mme. Curie will make five appearances at university or scientific gatherings.

Invasion of Men

AN invasion of men into a time-honored sphere of women is reported from England. Housemaids are being replaced by "houseboys."

The New York Times comments:

"Girls and women looking for work apparently prefer to enter offices and factories, take tram tickets or do public charring. Men and boys who have been unable to find employment in the more usual masculine vocations have turned to

housework. Employers report that they make excellent servants, are more tidy than girls, and 'less self-opinionated.'

"To a man who has spent days haunting employment agencies where no job ever turns up for him, a snug berth in a comfortable household must seem a haven. It is said, too, that the English system of domestic service offers 'a real chance for advancement.' One may begin work at the bottom of the scale as a 'houseman' and work up to the glory of a full-fledged butler."

Education of Brazilian Women

THE Universitaria Feminina has been founded in Rio de Janeiro with the object of facilitating the higher education of women in Brazil. Bertha Lutz, the Feminist leader, and other well-known Brazilian women, have been invited to serve on the directorate.

Women Advise Mayor

THE Woman's Advisory Board to the Mayor of Savannah, Georgia, has been in existence for five years. It consists of twelve advisors, a chairman and a secretary, the latter not being a board member, but an employe in the office of the Clerk of City Council. The board was first created by the late Mayor Robert M. Hull, was continued by his successor, Thomas M. Hoynes, and is proving a valuable asset to the present Mayor, Gordon Saussy. The advisors are appointed by the Mayor, and all reports of the board are made to him exclusively. The personnel is composed of women representative of various elements of the city's life.

But why does not one of the advisors become Mayor some time? It seems that some of them should know a lot about the job.

News from the Field

Senator and Mrs. Nye Entertained

A DINNER in honor of Senator and Mrs. Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota was given at National Headquarters of the Woman's Party in Washington on October 22.

Senator Nye introduced the Equal Rights Amendment in the Senate, and spoke over the Woman's Party's nationwide hook-up on "Women's Part in National Life" on October 16.

Senator Nye is the second youngest Senator, being not yet 37 years old. He was born in Hortonville, Wisconsin, and educated in the Wisconsin public schools. He was a newspaper man in Wisconsin, Iowa, and North Dakota before entering public life.

Mrs. Nye was Anna Margaret Munch of St. Joseph, Missouri. They have three children.

Montana Officers

OFFICERS of the Montana State Branch of the National Woman's Party are: Chairman, Allie M. Sargent; first vice-chairman, Mary E. Owens; second vice-chairman, Lucy O. Likes; secretary-treasurer, Mathilde Ammen; auditor, Mella A. Carter; members of the executive committee, Mrs. M. G. Buckhous and Eva Ammen.

Equal Rights Treaty Progresses

FIVE members of the Six Point Group of England recently went to Geneva to discuss the Equal Rights Treaty with delegates to the League of Nations. Eight countries promised support of the Treaty, and two countries pledged themselves to propose it as a League of Nations convention.

The Six Point Group, of which Helen

A. Archdale is international secretary, is concentrating upon the Equal Rights Treaty and the proposed convention for equality in nationality to be proposed at the international conference on the codification of international law.

Mrs. Archdale is a member of the International Advisory Council of the National Woman's Party.

Mrs. Kerr Addresses Texas Club

LILLIAN H. KERR, former officer of the Colorado State Branch of the National Woman's Party, addressed the Women's Forum of Wichita Falls, Texas, October 8, on "Women in Relation to City, State, and Nation."

Mrs. Kerr is now teaching in Wichita Falls. She discussed the inequalities in the Texas laws which discriminate against women, and spoke of the importance of women in government.

She said that it is difficult for women to obtain executive positions in public life, pointing out that of one hundred members of the Colorado Assembly, only four are women, and that after 30 years of woman suffrage in Colorado, the first woman has only recently become a member of the Colorado City Council.

The Women's Forum has a thousand members, and owns its own building.

Mrs. Kerr is announcing the Equal Rights radio programs each Wednesday, and calling attention to them in the Texas newspapers.

Young Women's Council

THE Young Women's Council of the National Woman's Party held a benefit bridge party Thursday evening, October 17, the last of its series of parties at the Old Capitol.

Moving Day

THE National Woman's Party began moving to its new headquarters, Alva Belmont House, at 144 B street N. E., just a block from the "Old Brick Capitol," on October 24.

Florence Bayard Hilles brought her station wagon down from Delaware to help transport the equipment from the old headquarters to the new.

The Woman's Party will be completely settled in its new home by the time of the National Convention, December 6-8.

Two Million Dollar Fund

Treasurer's Report

EMMA WOLD, Treasurer

NETTIE TRAIL, C. P. A., Auditor

RECEIPTS collected by National Headquarters, December 7, 1912, to October 1, 1929, \$1,639,769.60.

Contributions, membership and other receipts, October 1 to 15, 1929:

Mrs. Corbin Thompson, D. C.	\$1.00
Mrs. Lillian G. Robinson, N. Y.	3.00
Miss Bertha Bass, R. I.	3.00
Esther B. McLaughlin, N. Y.	1.00
Elizabeth T. Kent, Cal.	100.00
Mrs. John C. Fitzpatrick, Md.	1.00
Lavinia L. Dock, Pa.	5.00
Jane Norman Smith, N. Y.	50.00
Montana Branch	10.00
Headquarters share of dues from Montana Branch (Branch retaining dues in excess of 25 cents):	
Miss Agnes E. Palm	.25
Mrs. Mary E. Owens	.25
Mrs. Mella A. Carter	.25
Mrs. Valentine Winters, Ohio	50.00
Lillian H. Kerr, Colo.	5.00
Florence Bayard Hilles, Del.	25.00
Mabel Vernon, Del.	25.00
Dividend from Endowment Fund	11.25
Sale of photograph	.50
Refunds	.95
Rent of rooms at Headquarters	455.14
Total receipts, October 1 to 15, 1929	\$747.59

Total receipts, December 7, 1912, to October 15, 1929, \$1,640,517.19

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